Preliminary Amendment Serial No. 09/579,909 Page 2 of 2

## **REMARKS**

The specification is amended to claim priority to the parent application. Applicants hereby cancel claims 1-9 and add new claims 10-15. All the additional claims are supported by the specification as originally filed, and no new matter has been added.

## CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request allowance of pending claims 10-15 in due course. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone at the number listed below to discuss any outstanding issues.

Date: December 6, 2000

Reg. No. 42,545

Tel. No. (617) 248-7675 Fax No. (617) 248-7100 Respectfully submitted,

John V. Forcier

Attorney for Applicants

Testa, Hurwitz, & Thibeault, LLP

125 High Street Boston, MA 02110